

Waste

Background information for caregivers:

Every year the world produces 2.12 billion tons of waste! This enormous amount of garbage is partly because 99 percent of what we buy is thrown away within 6 months. Some of it is recycled but a lot is simply dumped, causing huge problems for people, animals and the environment. For these reasons, waste minimizing and recycling are important for everyone to be aware of and participate in.



Examples of healthy behavior with garbage:

- Think twice before throwing anything out; can it be reused? Maybe for something else than it originally was intended for. For example worn out shoes can be used to grow plants in and empty glass bottles can be used as candlesticks
- Do not dispose any garbage in nature other than organic material
- Sort the garbage in organic waste, glass, plastic, cans and paper. Take it to a recycling depot
- Reduce the use of plastic since it is one of the most polluting materials and causes death for many sea animals
- Bring your own bags when grocery shopping

An activity day with the children about this topic could include:

- The children generating ideas about how to minimize garbage
- The children generating ideas about how to reuse things more times before throwing it away
- The children generating ideas about how to sort the garbage
- Make a competition about who can generate the best idea for up cycling. Up cycling means to reuse a thing for something other than it was intended for
- The children making specific plans to implement these initiatives in the every day life
- The children designing a method to measure if the initiatives are successful

